



035

TAG Modification
6/03/22

STATE OF WASHINGTON

STATE BUILDING CODE COUNCIL

Washington State Energy Code Development
Standard Energy Code Proposal FormCode being amended: ☐ Commercial Provisions ☒ Residential Provisions

Code Section #: Chapter 5 Section R502 Additions

Brief Description:

The creation of an exemption that may be used by the local AHJ when a small addition has an undue burden (cost incurred by structural hindrances, real-life practicality of install, or overly costly requirements with little to no benefit) trying to achieve the R406.2 or R406.3 credit requirement. (An example of this is credits currently required for a small bathroom, hallway entry, or bay window “bump out” when the rest of the home envelope and mechanical systems are relatively new and efficient.)

Proposed code change text: (Copy the existing text from the Integrated Draft, linked above, and then use underline for new text and ~~strikeout~~ for text to be deleted.)

See attached page. All proposed changes are underlined.

Purpose of code change:

To relieve the unnecessary cost burden and real-world practicality of complying with the R406.2 and R 406.3 specifications of “tiny” additions to existing dwellings.

Your amendment must meet one of the following criteria. Select at least one:

- ☐ Addresses a critical life/safety need. ☐ Consistency with state or federal regulations.
- ☐ The amendment clarifies the intent or application of the code. ☒ Addresses a unique character of the state.
- ☐ Corrects errors and omissions.
- ☒ Addresses a specific state policy or statute.
(Note that energy conservation is a state policy)

Check the building types that would be impacted by your code change:

- ☒ Single family/duplex/townhome ☐ Multi-family 4 + stories ☐ Institutional
- ☒ Multi-family 1 – 3 stories ☐ Commercial / Retail ☐ Industrial

Your name Jonathan P Jones Email address jonesj@energy.wsu.edu

Your organization Washington State University Phone number 360-956-2042

Other contact name Kevin Rose

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Economic Impact Data Sheet

Is there an economic impact: ☐ Yes ☒ No

Briefly summarize your proposal's primary economic impacts and benefits to building owners, tenants and businesses.

There would be no additional cost impact. This proposal is intended to alleviate cost burdens in tiny additions where compliance with the R406.2 and R406.3 specifications are impractical due to health and safety issues or are not cost feasible.

Provide your best estimate of the construction cost (or cost savings) of your code change proposal? (See OFM Life Cycle Cost [Analysis tool](#) and [Instructions](#); use these [Inputs](#). **Webinars on the tool can be found [Here](#) and [Here](#)**)

\$[Click here to enter text.](#)/square foot (For residential projects, also provide \$[Click here to enter text.](#)/ dwelling unit)

Show calculations here, and list sources for costs/savings, or attach backup data pages

Provide your best estimate of the annual energy savings (or additional energy use) for your code change proposal?

[Click here to enter text.](#)KWH/ square foot (or) [Click here to enter text.](#)KBTU/ square foot

(For residential projects, also provide [Click here to enter text.](#)KWH/KBTU / dwelling unit)

Show calculations here, and list sources for energy savings estimates, or attach backup data pages

List any code enforcement time for additional plan review or inspections that your proposal will require, in hours per permit application:

This would save a lot of time and effort (labor hours) in cases where a project has stalled in the permitting process and industry experts are consulted to try and solve the issues that hamper a project from complying with code requirements.

SECTION R502 ADDITIONS

R502.1 General. *Additions* to an existing *building*, *building* system or portion thereof shall conform to the provisions of this code as those provisions relate to new construction without requiring the unaltered portion of the existing *building* or *building* system to comply with this code except as specified in this chapter. *Additions* shall not create an unsafe or hazardous condition or overload existing building systems. An *addition* shall be deemed to comply with this code where the *addition* alone complies, where the existing *building* and *addition* comply with this code as a single building, or where the *building* with the *addition* uses no more energy than the existing *building*. *Additions* shall be in accordance with Section R502.1.1 or R502.1.2.

R502.1.1 Small additions. *Additions* not greater than ~~100-150~~ square feet (~~9.2~~13.9 m²) ~~and not heated by electric resistance heating~~ shall not be required to comply with Section R406.

R502.3 Prescriptive compliance. *Additions* shall comply with Sections R502.4.1.1, ~~13.1~~ through R502.4.1.4, ~~3.4~~.

R502.3.1 Building envelope. New building envelope assemblies that are part of the *addition* shall comply with Sections R402.1, R402.2, R402.3.1 through R402.3.5, and R402.4.

R502.3.1.1 Existing ceilings with attic spaces. Where an *addition* greater than ~~100-150~~ square feet (9.2 m²) adjoins existing ceilings with attic spaces, the existing attic spaces shall comply with Section R402.

R502.3.2 Heating and cooling systems. HVAC ducts newly installed as part of an *addition* shall comply with Section R403.

Exception: The following need not comply with the testing requirements of Section R403.3.3:

1. *Additions* of less than ~~750~~100-750150 square feet.
2. Duct systems that are documented to have been previously sealed as confirmed through field verification and diagnostic testing in accordance with procedures in WSU RS-33.
3. Existing duct systems constructed, insulated, or sealed with asbestos.

Also update R406 with new parameter.